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MEAST ASIA BRIEF 128-75.4

L. CHINA-CAMBODIA-VIETNAM: PEKING HAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY
WELCOMED CAMBODIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS KHIEU SAMPHAN AND
IENG SARY, LAUDING THE NEW REGIME'S ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROMISING
CONTINUING SUPPORT. THE VISIT IS THE FIRST TRIP ABROAD FOR
CAMBODIA'S COMMUNIST LEADERS SINCE THEY ASSISTMED POWER LAST
APRIL.Y

A PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL ON THE VISIT POINTS UP THE IMPORTANCE PEKING ATTACHES TO CONTINUING CLOSE TIES WITH PHNOM PENH, AND BOTH SIDES CLEARLY VIEW THE VISIT AS A HIGHLY VISIBLE MEANS OF REAFFIRMING THEIR RELATIONSHIP. THE CHINESE PROBABLY CONSIDER THE VISIT IMPORTANT IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT TRIP TO CAMBODIA BY NORTH VIETNAMESE FIRST SECRETARY LE DUAN.Y

A CONTINUATION OR A POSSIBLE INCREASE IN CHINEST ECONOMIC

AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO CAMBODIA WILL PROBABLY HEAD THE

LIST OF TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING KHIEU'S VISIT. THE

CHINESE HAVE BEEN BY FAR THE LARGEST FOREIGN CONTRIBUTORS TO

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D PRICES

CAMBODIAN REHABILITATION SINCE THE COMMUNIST TAKE-OVER, AND
CHINESE TECHNICIANS CURRENTLY IN CAMBODIA NUMBER IN THE
HUNDREDS. ALTHOUGH PEKING HAS NOT YET MADE ANY PUBLIC PROMISES,
THE CHINESE ARE ALMOST CERTAINLY PREPARED TO ASSURE THE
CAMBODIANS OF CONTINUING ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
AS ONE WAY OF MAINTAINING A DOMINANT POSITION IN PHNOM PENH. Y

PRINCE SIHAMOUK'S ROLE IN THE NEW REGIME IS A SUBJECT
THAT PROBABLY CANNOT BE AVOIDED, BUT THE CHINESE APPEAR TO
BE IN NO MOOD TO PUSH THE CAMBODIAN COMMUNISTS ON THIS SCORE.
SIHAMOUK APPARENTLY REMAINS IN PYONGYANG, BUT MAY RETURN TO
PEKING MIN ORDER TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF HIS POSSIBLE RETURN
TO CAMBODIA. P

CHINESE TREATMENT OF A NORTH YIETNAMESE ECONOMIC DELEGATION NOW IN PEKING, LED BY POLITBURO MEMBER LE THANH NIGHT, IS MUCH COOLER IN TONE THAN THE CHINESE COMMENTARY ON THE CAMBODIAN VISIT. IN FACT, DISCREPANCIES IN THE REPORTING OF CHINESE AND VIETNAMESE NEWS AGENCIES POINT TO CONTINUING FRICTIONS BETWEEN PEKING AND HANOI.9

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CHINESE COVERAGE OF VICE PREMIER LI HZIEN-NIEN'S COMMENTS

AT A WELCOMING BANQUET FOR THE VIETNAMESE DELEGATION EMPHASIZED

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AND INCLUDED A REFERENCE TO VIETNAMESE

STRUGGLES AGAINST "IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, AND HEGEMONISM."

VIETNAMESE PRESS ACCOUNTS DROPPED THIS PHRASE, PRESUMABLY

BECAUSE OF SOVIET SENSITIVITIES ON THE HEGEMONY ISSUE. THE

DELEGATION IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT MOSCOW AFTER FINISHING UP IN

PEKING.Y

THE VIETNAMESE CONCENTRATED ON PURELY BILATERAL ISSUES-ESPECIALLY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE--IN THEIR COVERAGE OF THE VISIT.

THE VIETNAMESE QUOTED LE THANH NUGHI AS CONCLUDING THAT AN
INCREASE IN CHINESE AID TO VIETNAM WOULD BE "OF GREAT
IMPORTANCE" TO VIETNAM. THE CHINESE PRESS INCLUDED NOTHING
ON THIS ISSUE, SUGGESTING THAT THE TWO SIDES MAY BE FAR APART ON
THE QUESTION OF CHINESE AID. ESECRETLY

2. PHILIPPINES: PRESIDENT MARCOS' ANNOUNCEMENT THURSDAY
THAT HI HAS ARRANGED A CEASE-FIRE WITH THE RADICAL MUSLIM MORO
NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT SHOULD BE REGARDED WITH SKEPTICISM. P
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THE GOVERNMENT STATEMENT OUTLINING THE ACCORD THAT MARCOS
REACHED AGREEMENT WITH ABDUL HAMID LUKMAN, WHOM THE PHILIPPINE
GOVERNMENT TERMS A LEGAL ADVISER AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER
OF THE LIBERATION FRONT. IT SAID THAT SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS
WOULD BE HELD TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR MUSLIM AUTONOMY
AND THE CREATION OF AN INTERNAL SECURITY FORCE, TWO KEY DEMANDS OF
REBEL LEADERS AT NEGOTIATIONS IN JIDDA LAST JANUARY.

IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT LUKMAN MERELY HAS DEFECTED TO THE GOVERNMENT SIDE AND MANAGED THAT THE MANAGEMENT SIDE AND MANAGED GOVERNMENT OF A MANYM-PRONGED GOVERNMENT EFFORT TO DIVIDE AND CONFUSE THE REBELS. WHILE TRYING TO CONVINCE WORLD ISLAMIC LEADERS THAT MANILA IS MAKING A SINCERE EFFORT TO MEET REBEL DEMANDS. A MAJOR FEATURE OF THIS CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN HIGHLY PUBLICIZED AGREEMENTS WITH REBEL DEFECTORS. NONE OF THE DEFECTORS HAS BEEN A HIGH-RANKING LEADER NOR HAVE THE AGREEMENTS HAD MUCH PRACTICAL SIGNIFICANCE. LUKMAN WAS A MEMBER OF THE REBEL DELEGATION AT THE JIDDA TALKS. BUT HE WAS EVIDENTLY ONLY A RECENT RECRUIT TO THE FRONT AND NOT A MEMBER

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OF LEADER NUR MISUARI'S INNER CIRCLE. ECONFIDENTIALLY

3.//LAOS: THE LONG-ANTICIPATED PATHET LAO MOVE TO "LIBERATE" THE NEUTRALIZED CAPITAL OF VIENTIANE IS UNDERWAY.//Y

VISEVERAL THOUSAND COMMUNIST-LED CIVILIAN DEMONSTRATORS STAGED PEACEFUL PROTEST MARCHES IN TWO OF VIENTIANS'S OUTLYING DISTRICTS OVER THE DEEKEND. THE MARCHERS, DESCRIBED AS WELL ORGANIZED BUT LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC, WERE ACCOMPANIED BY ARMED PATHET LAD TROOPS AND PLAINCLOTHES CADRE. THE DEMONSTRATORS ARE REPORTEDLY DEMANDING THE OUSTER OF LOCAL MON-COMMUNIST VILLAGE OFFICIALS AND THEIR REPLACEMENT BY PRO-COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZERS.//Y

NUHEN THIS PROCESS HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN THE OUTLYING DISTRICTS, PERHAPS AS EARLY AS MONDAY OR TUZSDAY, THE DEMONSTRATORS ARE EXPECTED TO MOVE TO DOWNTOWN VIENTIAME WHERE THEY WILL DEMAND FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THE CAPITAL'S NEUTRAL STATUS. THE PATHET LAG OBJECTIVE IS TO ABROGATE THOSE PROVISIONS OF THE LATER PEACE ACCORDS WHICH GAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY AND OTHER MUNICIPAL FUNCTIONS IN VIENTIABLE TO JOINT COMMUNICIT AND NON-COMMUNIST ORGANIZATIONS: THIS WILL ALLOW THE COMMUNISTS TO DATE:

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WESTERN HENISPHERE BRIEF 184-75.4

BRAZIL: THE REACTION OF THE OPPOSITION PARTY TO PRESIDENT

GEISEL'S RECENT SPEECH REFLECTS ITS REALIZATION THAT THE GOVERNMENT

HAS MADE A MAJOR CONCESSION TO HARD-LINE MILITARY CONSERVATIVES BY

ABANDONING LIBERALIZATION AS ONE OF ITS MAJOR GOALS. OPPOSITION

LEADERS NOW BELIEVE THAT THEIR GAINS IN LAST YEAR'S CONGRESSIONAL

ELECTIONS HAVE BACKFIRED BY SUGGESTING TO THE CHEMIES OF LIBERALIZATION THAT THE BALLOTING SHOWED PUBLIC REPUDIATION OF THE MILITARY'S

EXERCISE OF POWER-Y

PROPONENTS OF LIBERALIZATION HAD HOPED THAT GEISEL WOULD REAFFIRM HIS INTENTION TO CONTINUE THE PROCESS OF EASING CONTROLS ON
POLITICS. WHEN HE FAILED TO ADDRESS SUCH CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES AS
PRESS CENSORSHIP OR ILLEGAL ARRESTS. THEY WERE BITTERLY DISAPPOINTED.

GEIZEL FURTHER CONFOUNDED THE OPPOSITION PARTY BY BIRTUALLY COOPTING ITS ENTIRE SOCIAL PROGRAM. OPPOSITION LEADER GUIMARAES HAS
RESPONDED IN UNUSUABLY STRONG LANGUAGE, DENOUNCING THE "SHITCH IN
SIGNALS" AND SCORING THE PRESIDENT'S CALL FOR VIGILANCE AGAINST
COMMUNIST SUBVERSION AS PROVIDING THE PRETEXT FOR A "HITCH HUNT."

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THIS OUTBURST PROVOKED A SHARP REBUTTAL BY THE HEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT PARTY. WHO APPARENTLY SOUGHT TO CREATE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE IS MORE THAN A MATCH FOR THE OPPOSITION. GUIMARAES REPORTEDLY ALSO ANGERED GEISEL. BUT A PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN HAS INDICATED THAT HO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST HIE.*

PRO-GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION POLITICIANS INTEND TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN COMING PARTY AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS TO TEST THE GOVERNMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO PERMIT ELECTIONS AS OPEN AS THE ONES LAST YEAR.

GEISEL'S SPEECH APPEARS TO HAVE MADE IT CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE NO VOHER STEPS TO REDUCE CONTROLS ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY. CONFIDENTIALS 5-2 IMPDET.H

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MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 128-75-4

I. BANGLADESH: THERE HAVE BEEN NO SIGNS OF RESISTANCE TO THE NEW REGIME SINCE THE MILITARY-LED COUP ON FRIDAY. THE ROUND-THE-CLOCK CURFEU HAS BEEN PARTIALLY LIFTED, BUT MARTIAL LAW APPARENTLY REMAINS IN FORCE.Y

THE NEW GOVERNMENT APPEARS TO BE MOVING TOWARD CLOSER LINKS WITH OTHER ISLAMIC COUNTRIES—INCLUDING PAKISTAN, WITH WHICH RELATIONS HAD BEEN VERY LIMITED SINCE BANGLADESH BECAME INDEPENDENT FROM PAKISTAN IN 1971. DACCA PROBABLY WILL ALSO TRY TO MAINTAIN REASONABLY GOOD RELATIONS WITH INDIA, BUT TIES ARE UNLIKELY TO BE AS CLOSE AS THEY WERE UNDER THE LATE PRESIDENT MUJIB.Y

PRESIDENT MUSHTAQUE HAS DECLARED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WANTS

FRIENDLY TIES WITH ALL THREE MAJOR POWERS. PAKISTAN ON FRIDAY BECAME

THE FIRST NATION TO RECOGNIZE THE NEW REGIME AND HAS PROMISED

TO SEND SUBBUT TONS OF RICE AND DE MILLION YARDS OF CLOTH.

IT URGED OTHER ISLAMIC COUNTRIES TO EXTEND RECOGNITION, AND

SAUDI ARABIA AND SUDAN DID SO OVER THE WEEKEND. BANGLADESH'S

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NEW RULERS UNDOUBTEDLY ARE ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN ECONOMIC AID FROM THE ISLAMIC COUNTRIES.4.

INDIA SO FAR HAS TAKEN A CAUTIOUS STANCE TOWARD THE NEW GOVERNMENT, WHICH REPRESENTS A SHIFT AWAY FROM THE SECULAR AND GENERALLY PRO-INDIAN ORIENTATION OF THE MUJIB REGIME. AN OFFICIAL INDIAN STATEMENT PUBLISHED SUNDAY DESCRIBED THE EVENTS AS "INTERNAL MATTERS OF BANGLADESH" THAT INDIA IS "CAREFULLY STUDYING." TASS REPORTS, INDICATE THAT MOSCOW IS ALSO ADOPTING A WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE. PEKING'S NEWS AGENCY HAS REPORTED THE COUP BUT NOT YET COMMENTED ON IT. (SECRETLY

2. ANGOLA: THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA AND THE NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDMEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA ARE BATTLING FOR CONTROL OF THE PORT AND RAILHEAD AT LOBITO AND BENGUELA. FIGHTING IN THE AREA BEGAN LAST NEDNESDAY AND INCREASED OVER THE WEEKEND.

THE POPULAR MOVEMENT APPEARS TO BE TRYING NOW TO SECURE MILITARY DOMINANCE OVER AMGOLA'S VITAL ECONOMIC CENTERS.

EVEN AT THE RISK OF HAVING TO FIGHT THE MATEONAL FROM FOR THE DATE:

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LIBERATION OF ANGOLA AND THE NATIONAL UNION AT THE SAME TIME.

THE POPULAR MOVEMENT CONTROLS LUANDA BUT IS CAUGHT BETWEEN

THE MATIONAL FRONT TO THE NORTH AND THE NATIONAL UNION TO

THE SOUTH-12

SO FAR, THE PORTUGUESE HAVE NOT INTERVENED IN THE MAFIGHTING, LISBON REPORTEDLY IS PREPARING TO SEND ADDITIONAL TROOPS TO ANGOLA TO RESTORE ORDER AND BACK UP ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER MACEDO'S ATTEMPTS TO REASSERT PORTUGUESE AUTHORITY OVER THE TERRITORY. (CONFIDENTIALLY)

3. PHODEAIS: ALTHOUGH PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH AND BLACK
RHODESIAM NATIONALISTS HAVE AGREED TO BEGIN SETTLEMENT TALKS THIS
MONTH, THEIR CONFLICTING VIEWS OF THE PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS DO NOT
BODE WELL FOR SUCCESSFUL MEGOTIATIONS.Y

THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED ON THESDAY THAT:

-- AN INITATAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE NO LATER THAN
AUGUST 25 IN A RAILROAD CAR ON A BRIDGE SPANNING THE KAMBEKI
RIVER MIDWAY BETWEEN RHODESIA AND KAMBIA.4

--THE SPECIFIC SETTLEMENT TERMS WILL BE DRAWN UP BY ONE DATE:
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OR MORE JOINT COMMITTEES WORKING IN RHODESIA.4

--AFTER THE COMMITTEES HAVE COMPLETED THEIR WORK, A FINAL CONFERENCE WILL CONVENE AT A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SITE TO CONCLUDE A FORMAL SETTLEMENT.Y

ON MEDNESDAY IN ZAMBIA, BISHOP MUZOREWA, CHAIRMAN OF THE RHODESIAN AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL, CONFIRMED THE BLACK NATIONALISTS' ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS THAT HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED IN RHODESIA. ON THE SAME DAY, THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT REPLIED WITH A WARNING THAT THE BLACK NATIONALISTS RISKED DESTROYING THE POSSIBILITY OF AN AGREED SETTLEMENT IF THEY WENT BACK ON ANY PART OF THE AGREEMENT TO HOLD TALKS.

ON FRIDAY, HOWEVER, MUZOREWA SAID THE COUNCIL REJECTS

THE PROVISION TO HOLD COMMITTEE SESSIONS INSIDE RHODESIA; THE DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS, HE SAID, MUST BE HELD AT THE SITE OF THE INITIAL SESSION.

MUZOREMA'S REVERSAL DAS PROVOKED BY SMITHA'S STATEMENT ON WEDNESDAY THAT THE INITIAL SESSION WILL BE MERELY A BRIEF FORMALITY AND THAT ACTUAL MEGOTIATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE INSIDE DATE: ORIG: UNIT: EXT:

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EUROPEAN BRIEF 128-75-4

I. PORTUGAL: PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS VOWED ON SUNDAY TO CONTINUE THEIR CAMPAIGN IN THE NORTH TO REASSERT THE PARTY'S PRESENCE THERE.Y

THEIR INITIAL FORAY INTO THE NORTH, A PARTY RALLY ON

SATURDAY IN THE TOWN OF ALCOBACA, PROVED THAT THE ANTI-COMMUNISTS

ARE EQUALLY DETERMINED TO BE RID OF THEM. THE COMMUNISTS, NOW

EXPERIENCING THE SAME TYPE OF HARASSMENT FACED BY THE MORE

CONSERVATIVE PARTIES SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, ARE DEMANDING THAT

THE MILITARY GUARANTEE THE RIGHT OF FREE ASSEMBLY.Y

THEY HAVE SCHEDULED ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION ON TUESDAY IN OPORTO, CLAIMING THEY HAVE SUFFICIENT POWER TO RESPOND AND "SMASH THE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES." ANTI-COMMUNISTS AROUND OPORTO ARE CERTAIN TO REACT TO THIS SECOND CHALLENGE AND MORE VIOLENCE MAY RESULT BECAUSE THE COMMUNISTS HAVE PROMISED TO "TAKE PRECAUTIONS" AGAINST A REPETITION OF EVENTS IN ALCOBACA."

PRO-COMMUNIST PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES, UNDER HEAVY DATE:
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PRESSURE TO RESIGN, PUBLICLY ADMITTED SATURDAY THAT HIS NEW GOVERNMENT—NOW OVER A WEEK OLD—IS UNABLE TO FUNCTION BECAUSE OF THE SPLIT IN THE ARMED FORCES. HE APPEALED TO THE PEOPLE TO DEMAND A QUICK SOLUTION TO THE "POLITICAL AMBIGUITIES" DIVIDING THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL PARTIES WHICH PREVENT THE CABINET FROM DEALING WITH PORTUGAL'S MORE PRESSING "ROBLEMS. GONCALVES PROMISED THAT HE AND HIS LEFT—WING CABINET WOULD NOT "SHIRK THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES." THE STATEMENT WILL DO LITTLE TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR GONCALVES, BUT IT DOES MAKE CLEAR TO THOSE OPPOSING HIM THAT HE WILL NOT STEP DOWN VOLUNTARILY.

THE DISSIDENT OFFICERS IN THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT ARE CONTINUING TO CIRCULATE THE ANTI-REGIME DOCUMENT DRAFTED BY FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES. HOPING TO GAUGE SUPPORT AMONG THE RANK AND FILE BEFORE MOVING AGAINST GONCALVES.

THE DISSIDENTS ARE CLEARLY HESITANT TO MOVE AGAINST THEIR FELLOW OFFICERS AND MAY LOSE THEIR ADVANTAGE IF THEY CONTINUE TO DE'AY. THE SCCIALISTS AND OTHER ANTI-COMMUNIST CIVILIAN GROUPS, HOWEVER, CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE PRESSURING THEM.

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2. SPAIN: FELIPE GONZALEZ, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SPANISH SOCIALIST WORKERS' PARTY EPSOED—THE LARGEST OF THE FIVE TILEGAL SOCIALIST GROUPS IN SPAIN—SAID LAST MONTH THAT THE PSOE BELIEVES THAT EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT DEMOCRACY IN SPAIN BY REFORMING THE FRANCO REGIME WILL NOT WORK OUT. HIS PARTY BELIEVES THAT A COMPLETE BREAK WITH THE EXISTING REGIME WILL BE NECESSARY. THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A TRANSITIONAL PHASE LEADING TO A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WHICH WOULD DRAFT A DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION.Y

GONZALEZ STRESSED THAT THE PSOE, LIKE MOST OTHER

OPPOSITION GROUPS, IS AWARE OF THE NEED TO AVOID ANY UPHEAVAL

OR "TRANMAS" DURING THE TRANSITION, BUT HE MOTED THAT THE

LONGER THE PRESENT SITUATION WITH A GRADUALLY DETERIORATING

FRANCO OF A TRAUMA WHEN FRANCO GOES. THE PSOE DOUBTS THAT

PRINCE JUAN CARLOS, FRANCO'S DESIGNATED HEIR, CAN PROVIDE

THE LEADERSHIP OR ATTRACT SUFFICIENT SUPPORT TO SEE SPACEN

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THROUGH THE CRITICAL TRANSITION PERIOD. GONZALEZ PHORTRAYED JUAN CARLOS AS LEACKING IN FORTITUDE, CAPACITY TO GOVERN, AND POLITICAL ASTUTENESS.Y

GONZALEZ PLAYED DOWN THE POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE, HOMEVER, SAYING THE PSOE FAVORS A PRAGMATIC STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH IN THE POST-FRANCO ERA, WHICH WOULD NOT DESTROY THE POSTIVE INSTITUTIONS—HE CITED SCHOOLS—FRANCO HAS BUILT. HE ADDED THAT HE AND OTHER YOUNG OPPOSITION LEADERS, ALTHOUGH BORN AFTER THE CIVIL WAR, ARE VERY MUCH AWARE OF, AND STILL INFLUENCED BY THE WAR. THUS THEY ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO PROCEED WITH CAUTION IN ORDER TO AVOID A SIMILAR EXPERIENCE.

GONZALEZ AND THREE OF HIS COLLEAGUES STATED THEY BELIEVES

THE PSOE HAS A SOLID WORKING CLASS, BBASE AND A SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL POTENTIAL. ONE SAID THAT IN A FREE ELECTION THE PSOE MIGHT HAVE ABLMOST AS MUCH ELECTORAL STRENGTH AS MARIO SOARES' PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST FARTY MUSTERED IN THE PORTUGUESE ELECTIONS LAST APRIL. AND THAT THE SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY WOULD DO NOT BETTER THAN THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS (12-13 PERCENT).

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THE PSOE LEADERS EMPHASIZED THEY ARE OPPOSED TO THE

COMMUNIST-DOMINATED DEMOCRATIC JUNTA AND FIRMLY SUPPORT THE

NEWLY FORMED RIVAL DEMOCRATIC CONVERGENCE COALITION. GONZALEZ

BELIEVES THAIS COALITION WILL BE THCAPABLE OF TICARRYING

ON A DIALOGUE WITH ALL SECTORS OF SOCIETY, INCLUDING THE

CAPITALISTS AND THE MILITARY, IN ORDER TO SECURE A PEACEFUL

AND ORDERLY TRANSITION TO A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM. GONZALEZ ALSO

STATED THAT THE PSOE FEELS THAT ANY POST-FRANCO DEMOCRATIC

SYSTEM MUST BE OPEN TO ALL POLITICAL PARTIES, INCLUDING THE

COMMUNISTS. {CONFIDENTIAL}*

3. BULGARIA: POPE PAUL VI RECENTLY NAMED TWO NEW BISHOPS TO HEAD LONG-VACANT ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESES IN BULGARIA.

THE NOMINATIONS, THE FIRST IN RECENT MEMORY, FOL-LOWED TALKS AT THE VATICAN IN JUNE BETWEEN BULGARIAN LEADER, ZHIVKOV AND POPE PAUL.

THE NEWLY ANNOUNCED BISHOPS ARE BOGDAN DOBRANOV CSOFIA AND PLOVDIVE, WHO HAD BEEN SECRETLY CONSECRATED IN LASA, AND VASCO SERIRECOV ENIKOPOLE.

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NO BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON EITHER

APPOINTEE. THEIR SEES HAD APPARENTLY BEEN VACANT

SINCE L952, WHEN THEIR PREDECESSORS DIED IN JAIL.4

ALTHOUGH THE BULGARIAN PRESS HAS NOT YET ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENTS, THE PARTY'S DAILY NEWSPAPER CARRIED ON THE FRONT PAGE AN EXTENSIVE ARTICLE
ON ZHIVKOV'S MEETING WITH POPE PAUL. THE POPE REPORTEDLY RAISED THE QUESTION OF FILLING THE VACANT
DIOCESES, AND ZHIVKOV INDICATED THAT HE WAS RECEPTIVE
TO FILLING THE POSITIONS QUICKLY.Y

THE VATICAN IS REPORTEDLY PLEASED OVER THE

LATEST SUCCESS IN ITS POLICY TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS

WITH THE EAST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST STATES. IT ALSO

PROBABLY HOPES SUCH MOVES WILL EASE THE PLIGHT OF

THE FAITHFUL. THERE ARE 35,000 TO 60,000 LATIN

AND BYZANTINE-RITE CATHOLICS IN BULGARIA, AN OVER
WHELMINGLY ORTHODOX COUNTRY. THE REGIME ACTIVELY

PERSECUTED THE CHURCH UNTIL L950, BUT SINCE THEN

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